ISSN 0820-61C

Forestry Canada | Forêts Canada

NO. 203

Forestry Canada - Maritimes Region

TECHNICAL NOTE

FOREST INSECTS AND DISEASES IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND NATIONAL PARK IN 1988

Personnel of the Forest Insect and Disease Survey regularly survey national parks for forest insect and disease conditions. Some of the conditions encountered in Prince Edward Island National Park in 1988 are discussed briefly below.

The **poplar leaffolding sawfly** larva, which folds the leaf edge to make a feeding site for itself, affected up to 20% of trembling aspen foliage on scattered trees in the Stanhope area of the Park.

Spruce budworm continues to defoliate white spruce and balsam fir in the Park. In the vicinity of Cavendish, small patches of spruce were moderately defoliated near the golf course and up to 1/3 of white spruce were severely defoliated in the campsite. Most balsam fir were moderately defoliated on Rustico Island but less than 10% of white spruce foliage was damaged near Stanhope.

Birch casebearer - lives in a cigar-shaped case feeding between the leaf layers as far as it can reach without leaving the case. It feeds on white birch, wire birch, and alders and caused moderate browning of wire birch in the Cavendish campsite, but browning was generally light on white birch and on patches of alders throughout the Park.

Winter drying and **salt spray** continued to affect spruce near the shore line areas of the Park, including the Stanhope Beach and Brackley Beach areas, causing needles to turn brown and drop off on the exposed side of the trees.

Serpentine leafminer, found mostly on trembling aspen, wanders inside the leaf. Affected leaves take on a silvery-gray appearance. Only trace discoloration was present on a few trees scattered throughout the Park.

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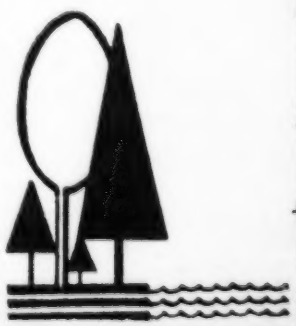

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89-02821/

Spruce budmoths (*Zeiraphera* spp.) feed under the bud caps of new spruce shoots. They caused light damage at Cavendish and Stanhope and trace damage at Rustico Island.

Cherry blight caused foliage to wither and turn brown on twigs and smaller branches of pin cherry trees at Cavendish.

Black knot of cherry was present on all pin cherry bushes causing branch and tree mortality in a small area in the Cavendish Park area of Prince Edward Island National Park.

Hypoxylon canker, found on stems and branches of trembling aspen and often killing affected trees, was present in the Cavendish campsite area where 44% of the trees were infected in a small stand.

Fall webworm, a late summer web-maker affecting a variety of hardwood trees, was present in low numbers throughout the Park.

Gypsy moth is a major pest of forest and shade trees in southern Ontario, southern Quebec, the northeastern U.S. and, recently, southwestern New Brunswick and western Nova Scotia. Twenty-five gypsy moth pheromone traps were placed in the National Park by Parks personnel in 1988 as part of the province-wide gypsy moth monitoring program. No moths were caught and no other life forms of the gypsy moth were found in the Park.

Leaf and twig blight of aspen, which causes the tips of new twigs and foliage to curl and turn black, resembling a shepherd's crook, was present on 20% of trembling aspen at the Cavendish campsite.

Spruce twig aphid, which produces a waxy white wool on new shoots, was light on a few white spruce trees at Cavendish.

Whitespotted sawyer beetle, which attacks and feeds under the bark of weakened softwoods, was present in a few deteriorated or dead, mature white spruce at Cavendish, along the edge of the golf course.

The **white pine weevil**, which kills the stem leader, damaged numerous Norway spruce near the Park entrance at Stanhope.

Whitemarked tussock moth larva, a pest of both coniferous and deciduous trees, severely defoliated an apple tree near the Cavendish Campsite.

Beetles - spruce trees, deteriorating from repeated spruce budworm attacks, are being further weakened by stem attacking beetles. Some of these include spruce beetles, balsam bark weevils, sawyer beetles and ambrosia beetles.

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March, 1989

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